

number twenty, in the same township and range; and whereas the said Robert Cummings, at the time of his death was an alien, and a subject of the kingdom of Great Britain, and died leaving a widow, Isabella Cummings, and no heirs of his body; and whereas, by the constitution and laws of this state, said real estate escheats to the school fund of this state to the injury of the said Isabella Cummings—therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

SECTION 1. Title of state relinquished. That all the right, title, interest, claim and demand of the state, or of the superintendent of public instruction, or of the school fund of the state, in and to the said real estate, be forever released, and conveyed to said Isabella Cummings, widow of the said Robert Cummings, and to her heirs, as aforesaid.

And be it further enacted,

Limitations. That the right of title hereby relinquished to said widow, shall not, in any way or manner enure to or vest in any prior purchaser, their heirs and assigns, by any contract made with said widow prior to the taking effect of this act; nor shall the same enure to any purchaser, their heirs or assigns, under any executor or administrator's sale, nor under any judicial sale, made prior to the taking effect of this act; but the title hereby relinquished shall vest in said widow, for her sole and separate use, unincumbered or affected by any incumbrance or lien prior to the taking effect of this act.

Approved, January 22d, 1853.

CHAPTER 52.

WEBSTER COUNTY.

AN ACT to create the county of Webster.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

SECTION 1. Counties united—name. That the counties of Yell and Risley, be and the [88] same are hereby united into one county, to be called "Webster."

SEC. 2. Take effect. This act to take effect from and after its publication in the Iowa Star; provided the state shall incur no expense for such publication.

Approved, January 22d, 1854.

CHAPTER 53.

DECATUR COUNTY.

AN ACT to locate the seat of justice of Decatur county.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

SECTION 1. Vote to decide—time of election—points—centre—majority—second vote—time—permanent seat of justice—deed. That the legal voters of Decatur county, may vote on the first Monday of April next, for the following points, to-wit; for either of the situations where locations have been selected,

and at the centre, or any other point the people may select within three miles of the geographical centre of said county; and if upon canvassing the votes, it is ascertained that any one point has received a majority of all the votes cast, then that shall be and remain the permanent seat of justice of said county of Decatur; but if no one point shall receive such majority, then the legal voters of said county may vote on the first Monday in May thereafter, for the two points which receive the highest number of votes at the April election; and also for such point, if there be any, that shall have receive a like number of votes with either of the two highest aforesaid, and the point receiving the highest number of votes, shall be and remain the permanent seat of justice of the county of Decatur; provided, that the owner or owners of such town or point, shall within ten days after the result of said election has been declared, make and execute to the county judge of said county, or the authorities that be, a good and sufficient deed for forty acres of land in said town, or at said point, for the use and accommodation of the public buildings of said county.

[89] SEC. 2. **Conduction of election—repeal—take effect.** Said election shall be conducted as other elections under the laws of this state. All acts or parts of acts, coming in conflict with this act, be, and the same are hereby, repealed. This act to take effect from and after its publication in the "Valley Whig," and "Keokuk Dispatch."

Approved, January 22d, 1853.

I hereby certify, that the foregoing act was published in the Keokuk Dispatch, February 8th, and Valley Whig, February 10, 1853.

GEO. W. McCLEARY,
Secretary of State.

CHAPTER 54.

DUBUQUE.

AN ACT to amend "an act, to incorporate and establish the city of Dubuque."

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

SECTION 1. **Boundaries.** That the boundaries of the city of Dubuque shall hereafter be as follows: beginning at a point in the middle of the main channel of the Mississippi river, in the south line continued of section thirty-one, township eighty-nine, north of range three, east; thence west, and on the south line of said section, and of sections thirty-six and thirty-five, in the same township, in range two east, to the west line of said section thirty-five; thence north, on the west line of section thirty-five, twenty-six, twenty-three, and fourteen, to the north line of section fourteen; thence east, on the north line of sections fourteen and thirteen, to the range line between ranges two and three, east; thence north along the same, to the north line of section seven of same township, in range three, east; thence east, along the north of said section seven, and on the same continued to the middle of the main channel of the Mississippi river; thence down said river with the middle of said channel, to the place of beginning.

SEC. 2. **Wards—elections—two aldermen—lot—term—five wards—aldermen.** That the city council of the city of Dubuque shall divide the territory hereby brought into said city, into two [90] election districts, and shall provide for holding an election therein, in each of which shall be elected in the